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Claims

1. A network of digitally connected devices including a reproduction device for reproducing a recording medium insertable in the reproduction device,  
5 wherein a controller for controlling the reproduction device is arranged, on insertion of a recording medium in the reproduction device, to perform a process comprising:  
detecting if the inserted recording medium has recorded thereon upgrade software for upgrading a target device in the network; and  
10 if it is detected that the inserted recording medium has upgrade software recorded thereon upgrade software, sending the upgrade software to the target device over the network and causing the target device to be upgraded by the upgrade software.
- 15 2. A network according to claim 1, wherein said step of causing the target device to be upgraded comprises sending the target device the upgrade software and an upgrade command for the upgrade device to perform the upgrade.
3. A network according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the step of detecting if the  
20 inserted recording medium has upgrade software recorded thereon comprises detecting data in a region of the recording medium storing information about the data structure of data recorded on the recording medium.
4. A network according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the devices  
25 include audio-visual devices.
5. A network according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the network is an IEEE 1394 network.
- 30 6. A network according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the

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controller is physically located in the reproduction device.

7. A controller for controlling a reproduction device for reproducing a recording medium insertable in the reproduction device which reproduction device is capable of digital connection to other devices in a network,

wherein the controller is arranged, on insertion in the reproduction device of a recording medium, to perform a process comprising:

detecting if the inserted recording medium has recorded thereon upgrade software for upgrading a target device in the network; and

if it is detected that the inserted recording medium has upgrade software recorded thereon upgrade software, sending the upgrade software to the target device over the network and causing the target device to be upgraded by the upgrade software.

8. A reproduction device for reproducing a recording medium insertable in the reproduction device which reproduction device is capable of digital connection to other devices in a network, the reproduction device comprising a controller for controlling the reproduction device, the controller being arranged, on insertion in the reproduction device of a recording medium, to perform a process comprising:

detecting if the inserted recording medium has recorded thereon upgrade software for upgrading a target device in the network; and

if it is detected that the inserted recording medium has upgrade software recorded thereon upgrade software, sending the upgrade software to the target device over the network and causing the target device to be upgraded by the upgrade

software.

9. A method of upgrading devices in a network of digitally connected devices including a reproduction device for reproducing a recording medium insertable in the reproduction device, the method comprising:

detecting if the inserted recording medium has recorded thereon upgrade

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software for upgrading a target device in the network; and

if it is detected that the inserted recording medium has upgrade software recorded thereon upgrade software, sending the upgrade software to the target device over the network and causing the target device to be upgraded by the upgrade software.

10. A recording medium having recorded thereon:

upgrading software for upgrading a device capable of being digitally connected in a network to a reproduction device for reproducing the recording medium; and

data indicating the presence of the upgrade software on the recording medium.

11. A recording medium according to claim 10, wherein said data indicating the presence of the upgrade software on the recording medium is stored in a region of the recording medium storing information about the data structure of data recorded on the recording medium.